

October 10, 2003

Docket Clerk/U.S. DOT Dockets  
Room PL-401, Nassif Building  
Department of Transportation  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Maersk Line, Limited's Application for Approval of Proposed Transfer of  
Maritime Security Program Operating Agreements [MARAD-2003-16248]

Dear Sir:

I am an employee of Maersk Line, Limited (MLL) and I am writing to encourage your approval of the application to transfer the MSP operating agreements for the 15 former Sea-Land vessels. I strongly believe that approving MLL's application would be beneficial, not only to MLL, but also to our national security.

MLL is an American company, based in Norfolk, Virginia that has contributed to the U.S. economy and our national defense for nearly 30 years. MLL has been a reliable partner with the Department of Defense. Approval of MLL's transfer request will strengthen that relationship by increasing MLL's involvement in MSP, a program that provides vital support for our nation's military sealift.

I am very confident that the transfer of the vessels will only enhance MLL's contribution to the military and sealift capabilities. I strongly urge you to approve the transfer the MSP operating agreements to MLL.

Sincerely,

J. E. GERDES